

AROMAS WATER DISTRICT

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March 25, 2003

The Honorable Terrance R. Duncan
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court, Monterey County
North Wing, Room 318 Church Street
Salinas, CA 93901

Re: Fluoridation Recommendation of Grand Jury

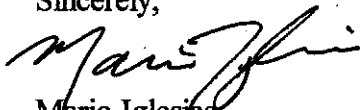
Dear Honorable Judge Duncan:

The Board of Directors of the Aromas Water District (AWD) has reviewed the findings and recommendations of the Civil Grand Jury and elected not to implement the addition of fluoride into the water supply for the following reasons:

1. State law mandates systems over 10,000 service connections treat with fluoride; the AWD services 750 connections, thereby well within compliance of the law.
2. The significant financial burden this would place on the customers of AWD is not warranted. Costs involve initial capital start-up as well as ongoing maintenance and operation.
3. While studies indicate improvement in dental health with the addition of fluoride, it has been suspected in other health issues such as thyroid disorders, skeletal fluorosis, dental staining, arthritis and brittle bones.
4. No requests have been made by any of our customers to fluoridate their water.

The Aromas Water District respectfully responds to the Monterey County Civil Grand Jury and disagrees with the findings. Please contact me if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,



Mario Iglesias
General Manager

Cc: AWD Board of Directors